



Department of Energy  
National Nuclear Security Administration  
Office of the General Counsel  
P. O. Box 5400  
Albuquerque, NM 87185



May 8, 2019

Joseph Durso  
MuckRock News/Dept MR 72612  
411A Highland Ave.  
Somerville, Massachusetts 02144-2516

## RECEIPT OF FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST

Dear Mr. Durso:

This letter acknowledges the receipt of your May 1, 2019, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request for:

Requesting the "retention letter" referred to on page 41 of GAO report # GAO-14-449 (<https://www.gao.gov/assets/662840.pdf>) associated with the retention of "canned subassemblies" of an unspecified warhead for potential use in defending the earth against asteroids, including any original appendices or other attachments.

We received your request in our office on May 2, 2019. It is the practice of the National Nuclear Security Administration, in accordance with Departmental policy, to process FOIA requests in the approximate order of the date received by this office. Your request is out for a search for responsive records. A number of requests received prior to yours are pending, and your request will be processed in turn. We will make every effort to respond to your request as quickly as possible. Please note that for fee purposes, "unusual circumstances" as defined in the Open Government Act of 2007 occur, as there is a need to search for or collect records from facilities geographically separated from this office. In your request you did not specify an amount you are willing to pay for the processing of your request. We estimate that we will not be able to provide responsive records in 20 working days, as we need more time to complete the search, review the record(s) for release, and prepare the response to you, as some requests, depending on the volume of records, the complexity of the search, and/or the sensitivity of the subject matter, require additional time to complete. If you have questions concerning the processing of this request, please contact me by e-mail at [Roberto.Marquez@nnsa.doe.gov](mailto:Roberto.Marquez@nnsa.doe.gov), or write to the address above. Please reference Control Number FOIA 19-00191-R.

Sincerely,

Roberto Marquez  
Government Information Specialist